

INFORMATION REPORT

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663

COUNTRY Germany (Berlin)

SUBJECT Resolution of Landesvorstand Berlin of SED  
25X1A

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1. Imperialist warmongers succeeded in deluding wide circles among West Berlin laborers as to the destructive (volksfeindlich) character of their policies [REDACTED] Comment: Referring to the so-called "little occupation statute" and the S-Bahn strike). Their principal means is the ever-recurring incitement directed against the Soviet Union and against our party.
2. The secretariat of the L.V. has until now failed to develop tactics adapted to the concrete conditions that prevail in a given sector. The weight of work of the secretariat centered too heavily upon the East Sector. This resulted in organizational and ideological stabilization of the party in the Western sectors of Berlin lagging behind developments in the Eastern sector, and in the inability of our party in the Western sectors to overcome its isolation, and in its losing influence among the masses. The influences of the class enemy upon our party in the West sectors are particularly noticeable. Consequently it will be the task of the whole party to shift the center of gravity of its work to the Western sectors.
3. The election of the 3rd German People's Congress, despite its success, showed that the party had been unable to create a broad national front of all friends of peace and of all forces interested in the unity of Germany.
4. The cause ([REDACTED] Comment: i.e., for the failure pointed out in para 3 above) lies in the obstructionist attitude which a large segment of our party members and functionaries has adopted in respect to the national fight and the problems it raises. This attitude of many of our party members and functionaries was and still is manifested in an intolerant and rigid attitude vis-a-vis the bourgeois parties and their representatives. Furthermore, many district functionaries have refused to recognize the black-red-gold flag which the Volksrat proclaimed the symbol of German unity.
5. Many election posters put up in our districts for the election of the 3rd Peoples' Congress carried socialist slogans instead of national front mottoes.

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6. In Western Berlin our party has not even yet succeeded in laying the foundation of a national front dedicated to the fight for unity and a just peace. The people's committees (Volksausschüsse) in Wilmersdorf, Reinickendorf, Neukölln, and other boroughs do not include broadly representative organs of all nationally interested circles.

7. In connection with the increased study of the history of the CP of the USSR and the conduct of the election fight and the campaign waged against the provocations committed by the UGO in its strike against the S-Bahn, there have been indications of defeatism and radical tendencies within the organization of our party.

8. The intensification of class warfare, linked with inadequate ideological work of our party, has facilitated the class enemy's design, through its Trotskyist agent apparatus (trotzkistische Agentur) to infiltrate our party with hostile ideas. Deficient ideological indoctrination of our members has up till now prevented a decisive repulse of Trotskyist tendencies. The spreading of anti-Soviet ideas within the party does not meet everywhere with sufficiently vigilant, hard and determined resistance. Lack of understanding of our peace policy frequently engenders sentiments which abet the enemy's provocative designs.

9. It devolves as a special task upon the party to win over the more than 40% who voted "No", to subscribe to the three basic demands: Unity of Germany, a just peace treaty, evacuation of the armies of occupation.

10. As a point of departure in judging the state of the party, the question must be asked why until now there has been no change in public sentiment and why the masses have not been mobilized in the fight against the provocative policy of splitting Germany and promoting war.

25X1A 11. In spite of this (Comment: i.e., the fact that the 1st party conference in January this year has assisted the Berlin party in increasing its fighting strength and in taking successful steps in the direction of ideological and organizational stabilization) our party has demonstrated serious shortcomings and flaws in the course of the serious class conflicts during the last months. The salient weakness of the party was undoubtedly in the field of ideological doctrines (Grundfragen) as presented at the 1st Party Conference to the whole party. The implementation of the tasks set by the 1st Party Conference -- the fight for unity of Germany, the role of the working class in the national battle for liberation, the creation of a new type party and by such means the firm anchoring of Marxism-Leninism in our party -- already betrayed those weaknesses. The problems of the 1st Party Conference were discussed schematically and not with sufficient thoroughness by the whole party organization.

12. In our attitude vis-a-vis the Soviet Union we have scored certain propaganda successes. The recognition of the leading role of the Soviet Union, often mere lip service, is however not sufficient. All forms of national hypocrisy and all qualifications in our attitude regarding the Soviet Union constitute in fact a denial of the leading role of the Soviet Union. Battle without compromise is not always being waged against anti-Soviet sentiment existing among the population and even still within the party, finding its expression particularly in the attitude toward the shameless incitement about the so-called concentration camps of the Russians and the question of prisoners of war. This weakness impedes us in conducting a broad and aggressive enlightening campaign against anti-Soviet feelings among the population.

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13. The constructive re-building program and the successes scored by the economic policy of our party have not been sufficiently popularized in our party and among the population. The unfolding of our economic policy requires the removal of ideological and bureaucratic obstacles facing the introduction of the premium system, the competition designed to stimulate the activist movement, and the enlistment of the intelligentsia.
14. The necessity of winning over the old intelligentsia for reconstruction and the implementation of the two year plan and the necessity of training a new intelligentsia have not been recognized sufficiently. Frequently the German Economic Commission directive dated 31 March 1949 pertaining to the support of science, research and arts still meets with opposition born of misunderstanding.
15. Our tasks: The main task is the creation of a national front for the whole of Berlin. In it all national conscious Germans from all social strata are to be represented, irrespective of their basic philosophies and their religious beliefs. Committees, communities and other organs serve to collect them. In all organizations which collect masses, regardless of the influences hitherto prevailing in them, mass work is necessary.
16. The role of the working classes in the national liberation fight is to be clarified. The party is to be purged without compromise of all hostile influences. New cadres, new forms and methods of party work directed at the masses; are to be developed particularly in the West sectors. Special emphasis is to be placed upon the selection and advancement of functionaries from among women and youths as well as upon the development of qualified experts (referenten).
17. Work in the circles for the study of the history of the CP of the USSR is to be stepped up, home study to be stimulated, facilities for consultation and teaching to be created.
18. Work in the Western Sectors: While uncompromisingly maintaining the party line of our policy for the whole of Berlin, we have to allow for the necessity of developing a diversity of tactics in the form and method of our work in the Eastern sector and in the Western sectors.
19. In discharging the tasks in Berlin it must be taken into consideration that within the framework of the national front the working class in alliance with all national forces prepared to assist in the reconstruction work must realize its leading role in the fight for peace, unity and reconstruction. In the final analysis the outcome depends on whether our party succeeds in transforming itself into a party of the new type. All party units must take a critical and self-critical stand in assessing the deficiencies of their work and in drawing lessons to be applied in the discharge of new tasks. In Berlin continued analysis of the findings of the 1st Party Congress from the viewpoint of political developments must be performed.
20. Party work in the plants: No doubt plants in the Soviet Zone of Occupation have grown stronger both ideologically and organizationally. In publicly owned plants and others similar in character, the main task is the fulfillment of the production plan. In so doing the main stress is to be placed upon the development of competition within the plant, upon the improvement of financial yield, and an increase of the work productivity (Arbeitsproduktivität).  
  
In the private sector of Berlin's economy, our shop groups are charged with the principal tasks of enforcing the workers' right of co-determination and improving the economic conditions of the workers. They have to insist on the conclusion of delivery contracts with publicly owned enterprises and where such contracts have been concluded, to insist that they be fulfilled.

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In the plants of West Berlin the party organization is called upon to develop new forms of work. Where our influence is weak, the fight for the advancement of the working class and for the uncovering of the anti-worker policy of the UGO has to be waged from the outside also.

21. Selective recruiting for the party: In conjunction with the tasks of the party (competition month, development of the national front, activist movement, etc.) the ranks of the party are to be reinforced and their social composition improved by means of selective recruitment.
22. Subscription campaign for party press: Besides the obligation of each party member to subscribe to our party press, which is self-evident, sales propaganda among all workers is to be stepped up. Plant subscriptions and plant sales are to be furthered. As means of actualizing and popularizing it, the most important measure to be taken by the editorial staffs of our party press is the enlistment and advancement of peoples' correspondents (Volkskorrespondenten).

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: The SED Resolution was the main topic on the agenda of the Organisationskonferenz of the Landesverband at Berlin/Kaulsdorf on 10 June 1949. As a result of their deliberations, meetings of the SED Kreisvorstände have been called, to be followed by functionary meetings at which the resolution will be debated (ausgewertet). The speakers at those meetings will be provided exclusively by the Landesverband, using the resolution as background material.

Party discussions in one of the West Berlin city districts reflected the general belief that the party has reached a decisive turning point. The following points made in the resolution have been stressed:  
Control of all party work in the Western sectors vested with the Landesverband; shifting the main weight of party work in Western Berlin to plant work (so-called "Arbeit in die Betriebe hinein").

All party positions occupied by professional functionaries are likely to undergo a major personnel reshuffle. The slogan is: "Jendretzki (chairman of the Landesverband Gross-Berlin) has consolidated his position -- now he is getting down to work".